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PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT
AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW
AND RELATED LITIGATION

EDMUND P. WOOD	1923-1968
TRUMAN A. HERRON	1935-1976
EDWARD B. EVANS	1936-1971

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January 16, 2004

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

To: Group Unit No. 1722
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fax: 703-872-9306

From: William R. Allen, Ph.D.

Re: US Application Serial No. 10/072,550
Filed February 7, 2002
FORMING SYSTEM FOR THE
MANUFACTURE OF NONWOVEN
WEBS AND LAMINATES
Inventor: Martin A. Allen
Confirmation No.: 3458
Atty Docket: NOR-1034
Client Reference: 01-186US

Pages: 16 (including cover sheet)

MESSAGE/COMMENTS

Please see Preliminary Amendment for filing in connection with the
above-referenced patent application.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is sent via
facsimile transmission to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment,
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
22313-1450, Fax Number: (703) 872-9306 on January 16,
2004

William R. Allen

William R. Allen, Reg. No. 48,389

16 January 2004

Date

Applicant: Martin A. Allen
Serial No: 10/072,550
Filing Date: February 7, 2002
Art Unit: 1722
Examiner: Unknown
Title: FORMING SYSTEM FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF
THERMOPLASTIC NONWOVEN WEBS AND LAMINATES
Atty Docket: NOR-1034

Confirmation No.: 3458

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

January 16, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please preliminarily amend this application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which
begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--While the air management system 12 has been illustrated in conjunction with the two-station production line 10, the air management system 12 is generally applicable to other production lines having a single station or a plurality of stations. In a single station production line, the nonwoven web can be manufactured using any one of a number of ~~process~~ processes, such as a meltblowing process or a spunbonding process. In a multiple-station production line, a plurality of nonwoven webs can be manufactured to form a multilayer laminate or composite. Any combination of meltblowing and spunbonding processes may be used to manufacture the laminate. For instance, the laminate may include only nonwoven meltblown webs or only nonwoven spunbonded webs. However, the laminate may include any combination of meltblown webs and spunbonded webs, such as ~~[[an]]~~ a spinbond/meltblown/spinbond (SMS) laminate.--